

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

COME-00 TAR-02 SS-20 SP-03 L-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /126 W
----- 012998

R 041815Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9639

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR/FR

SUBJECT: WORLD BEEF SITUATION

REF: STATE 110296

1. UNCLASSIFIED: SUMMARY - CORSON OF MINAG NOT OPTIMIS-
TIC ON FRANCE AIDING WORLD SOLUTION. MEASURES TO IN-
CREASE BEEF CONSUMPTION WOULD SHIFT PROBLEM TO OTHER
MEATS. FRENCH INTERVENTION STORAGE SPACE TIGHT. END
SUMMARY.

AGATTACHE DISCUSSED REFTTEL WITH CORSON, DIRECTOR OF MAR-
KETING AND FOREIGN RELATIONS IN MINAG. HE REVIEWED
FRENCH BEEF SITUATION. FARM PRICES HAD BEEN STABLE
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THROUGH LATE SIXTIES 3 F./KILO AND ROSE SHARPLY IN 1972

AND 1973 WHICH ALONG WITH OTHER ENCOURAGEMENTS RESULTING IN 15 PERCENT PRODUCTION INCREASE IN 1974 AND 1975 OVER 1973 LEVEL.

3. HE ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULT SITUATION BUT SAW NO SLOW-DOWN IN PRODUCTION DURING 1974 OR 1975. EC HAS ABOUT 100,000 TONS IN INTERVENTION AND AT CURRENT PURCHASE RATE FRANCE HAS ONLY 2 MORE MONTHS OF STORAGE SPACE.

4. HE HOPES THAT MOVEMENT TO INTERVENTION WILL SLOW DOWN IN SUMMER AND EVEN SOME OUT MOVEMENT IN ORDER TO BE READY FOR EXPECTED INFLOW DURING HEAVY MARKETINGS IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER.

5. CORSON WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC ON WORLD PROGRAMS TO RESOLVE SITUATION BUT HE DID INDICATE THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT PUSH FOR SOLVING EC PROBLEM WITH EXPORT RESTITUTIONS. HOWEVER, EC WOULD DISCOURAGE IMPORTS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

6. BEGIN CLASSIFIED - ATTACHE NOTED U.S. CONCERN THAT IF ALL IMPORTING COUNTRIES ACTED UNILATERALLY, PRESSURES MAY LEAD TO U.S. REINSTITUTING BEEF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS. CORSON'S RESPONSE WAS IN TERMS OF THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED SINCE EACH COUNTRY HAS TO PROTECT ITS OWN INTERESTS. END CLASSIFIED.

7. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED - HE STATED THAT WITH INCREASING POULTRY AND PORK PRODUCTION, MEASURES TO INCREASE BEEF CONSUMPTION WOULD RESULT IN PROBLEMS IN OTHER MEATS.

8. GOF AND MEAT TRADE HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING GROUND MEAT CONSUMPTION AND ALSO TRYING TO REDUCE STORAGE PROBLEM BY INCREASING PRODUCTION OF MANUFACTURED BEEF PRODUCTS.

9. FARMERS QUITE VOCAL ABOUT PROHIBITING IMPORTS, ESPECIALLY FROM EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES.
IRWIN

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